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HC

INFORMATION
November 9, 1970**SECRET****MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER****FROM: Herbert Levin**7/1
FROM OF FOR FILE.
NO INDICATION OF ORIGINATOR OR ADDRESSEE'S
FOLLOW UP ACTION, DISTR, OR DISTRIBUTION. ____**SUBJECT: Philippine Politics: Relationship Between President
And Mrs. Marcos**

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--Mrs. Marcos is developing political ambitions, perhaps to the point of trying to succeed President Marcos.

--Marcos will be only 56 at the end of his maximum second four year term in 1973, and is expected to try to guide next June's Constitutional Convention into lifting this limitation.

--If Marcos fails to amend the constitution to allow him to run again, he might acquiesce in Mrs. Marcos running to become an interim President until he is again eligible in 1977. However, she could not undertake this without his support.

--Mrs. Marcos is an activist, but thus far she supplements rather than competes with her husband. However, frictions do occur, particularly over Presidential Palace personnel matters.

--Mrs. Marcos' method of operation was clearly demonstrated during her U. S. visit in September, involving orchestrated employment of charm, threats, cajolery and references to a "Communist threat."

--We will continue to learn of arguments and abrasions between Emelda and the President but no family break is likely to take place since this would reduce both their stature and income and it is these which provide both with their driving force.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

State Dept. review completed

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